

CSR News Flash

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CSR Establishes Two New Addictive Behavior Study Sections

The Center for Scientific Review (CSR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has chartered two new study sections in its [Risk, Prevention and Health Behavior Integrated Review Group](#) that are dedicated to the review of grant applications studying addictive behavior in humans.

The Addiction Risks and Mechanisms (ARM) study section will review applications aimed at understanding the nature of addiction, including risks and underlying mechanisms of addiction and its onset and progression, and the development of tools for understanding addiction. The Interventions to Prevent and Treat Addictions (IPTA) study section will review applications aimed at developing and testing interventions to prevent the onset or progression of addiction and to treat existing addictions.

The establishment of the new study sections was the result of a reorganization of the existing [Risk, Prevention and Intervention for Addictions](#) (RPIA) study section and its companion Special Emphasis Panel. This reorganization was needed to accommodate the consistently high number of applications in the area of addictive behavior and to establish a transparent approach to matching applications to review committees with maximally appropriate expertise.

“We are pleased to have created an appropriate home for this large group of applications,” said CSR Director Dr. Richard Nakamura. “We owe a big thank you to all the stakeholders who helped this reorganization effort.” He then noted that CSR collaborated with an external working group composed of highly respected researchers in addiction science and leadership at the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the National Cancer Institute, and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

CSR’s Advisory Council endorsed the creation of ARM and IPTA on October 20, 2014. The two new study sections have been officially established by the NIH Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy, and they will hold their first review meetings in the fall of 2015. Specific descriptions of the new study sections’ scientific scope and coverage are available on CSR’s website:

- [Addiction Risks and Mechanisms](#) (ARM) study section
- [Interventions to Prevent and Treat Addictions](#) (IPTA) study section

About CSR

CSR organizes the peer review groups that evaluate the majority of grant applications submitted to NIH. These groups include experienced and respected researchers from across the country and abroad. Since 1946, CSR’s mission has been to see that NIH grant applications receive fair, independent, expert, and timely reviews — free from inappropriate influences — so NIH can fund the most promising research. CSR also receives all incoming applications and assigns them to the NIH institutes and centers that fund grants. For more information, go to CSR’s Web site—<http://www.csr.nih.gov>—or phone 301-435-1111.

About the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

NIH, the nation's medical research agency, includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. NIH is the primary federal agency conducting and supporting basic, clinical, and translational medical research, and is investigating the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit www.nih.gov.